

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575
Facsimile: 601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending September 12, 2004

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending September 12, 2004**. Dry weather allowed cotton producers to apply defoliant, while other crop producers were able to continue harvesting. Growers are hoping the weather remains favorable so that they can continue crop progress. Producers are also spraying to control insect and disease pressure. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 33 percent short, 64 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Mature	100	99	99	98	---	---	---	---	---
	Harvested	87	71	79	78					
	Silage Harvested	100	99	100	100					
Cotton	Open Bolls	78	57	69	84	2	7	24	49	18
	Harvested	2	--	7	8					
Rice	Mature	91	82	80	80	0	1	11	59	29
	Harvested	57	28	47	35					
Sorghum	Mature	99	98	98	98	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	85	65	72	77					
Soybeans	Turning Color	96	90	83	81	0	5	15	45	35
	Shedding Leaves	85	73	65	65					
	Harvested	65	49	45	33					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	85	82	91	89	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	12	7	34	26	2	8	37	43	10
Cattle						2	5	14	59	20
Pasture						4	8	32	49	7

County Agent Comments

"Ninety-five percent of the early beans have been harvested (60% of the county was planted in Group IV). Yields ranged from 35 to 84 bushels per acre. Corn and milo harvests are complete with average yields. Rice harvest has started and cotton will begin soon. Everyone has an eye on Ivan."

— Mark Young, Quitman

"Dry weather allowed corn, soybean and rice harvests to move rapidly forward with most corn producers now done with harvest. Some cotton was picked this week but most cotton producers applied their first defoliation materials."

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

"Armyworms damaged several hay fields, pastures, athletic fields and even a few yards this past week. Many hay producers and cattlemen were busy spraying to try to get their worms under control so as to lessen the damage to much needed forage."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

"Corn harvest advanced during the week. Yields were good but below last year's levels. We are still about 2 weeks from soybean harvest in earnest. Pastures were hit in scattered locations last week with armyworms. Hay harvest has slowed but continues with producers trying to get enough for this winter feeding season."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Peanut harvest is underway and cotton defoliation will begin as soon as Ivan moves out of the way. We are still spraying bermuda grass and some peanuts for fall armyworms and velvet bean caterpillars.”

— Mike Steede, George

“We are really dry but the forecast of a hurricane this week could bring us plenty of rain. Pastures are getting short and the grass has quit growing. Most producers will get one more cutting of hay this season.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Showers on Sunday will delay harvesting. Some cotton has been harvested, but a lot of defoliation went out last week. Rice harvest is going very well. There have been a few group V's harvested also. We do not need Ivan coming to the Delta.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“We are starting to get into MG V Soybeans. Most of the MG IV's are out of the field. Yields are ranging from 32 to as high as the low 80's. It is too early to tell about the corn. Cotton is cutting out pretty fast and some defoliant will go out in the next few days.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“The weather has been favorable for harvesting soybeans and corn. The cotton crop is maturing and bolls are opening. Rain is expected next week.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Group IV's are in the combine and corn will be harvested by Tuesday. We will have our first defoliations going out the first of the week. Now, if the hurricanes will only cooperate!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Corn and soybean harvest are progressing. Early planted cotton is beginning to open with some fields ready for defoliation.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Corn harvest is well underway and yields look to be down in low areas and average in hills. Cotton is starting to open. Insect pressure has been light.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Harvest resumed Tuesday after weekend rains. Yields are really good in most fields. I think we will be close to record yields in some crops.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“We have been very fortunate to have missed the first two hurricanes, but this third one, Ivan, could stop our progress next week. Producers are working to get as much of the crop harvested as possible.”

— Ernest. Flint, Attala

“We have been very fortunate to have missed the first two hurricanes, but Hurricane Ivan could stop our progress as early as this weekend. Harvesting is in full force.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Moisture conditions are basically adequate throughout the county. Farmers are busy making preparation for fall planting of winter forages and continued harvesting of warm-season forages.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Most of the early planted cotton is opening now, and defoliation will begin in the next 10-14 days. Fall armyworms continue to be a problem in many fields in the area. The first peanuts have been dug for the year, and many more will be dug in the next week. Diseases and insect pressure remain low in most fields.”

— Mike Howell, Covington

“Dry soil conditions and heavy pressure from fall armyworms are presenting problems for summer pastures and delaying planting of cool season grasses and small grains for grazing.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Cotton looks really good, but there are some problems with fall armyworms. Pastures are holding up well and most have plenty of grazing. Cattle look good and prices are holding up well. Folks are beginning to worry about the hurricane that is supposed to hit Florida on Thursday.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Hurricane Preparation is going in effect, harvesting has moved into high gear and livestock are being moved to higher elevations.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Corn harvest continues as weather permits. If rain holds off most corn will be harvested early this week. Winter grazing is being planted in most areas across the county. Armyworms are still troublesome in summer pastures.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Producers are still waiting for rainfall that will provide adequate moisture levels to help pastures stay green as well as allow them to have the moisture needed for seed germination for fall vegetable crops.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Lack of rain has caused very dry conditions, and ponds are down. We need rain!”

— Judith Breland, Stone

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director

Southern Regional Climate Center
Louisiana State University
Elizabeth Sanders
Service Climatologist

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

Weather Summary from September 6, 2004 to September 12, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				75		0.00	-0.78	0	5.21				
Cleveland				76		0.00	-0.62	0	2.44				
Tunica				76		0.00	-0.63	0	1.51				0.23
Extreme/Average				76		0.00	-0.70	0	3.05				0.23
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	91			74		0.00	-0.93	0	1.57				
Calhoun City	87	61	75	75	0	0.00	-0.84	0	3.32				
Independence	88	57	72	75	-3	0.00	-0.83	0	3.56				
Oxford	90	60	76	75	+1	0.00	-0.84	0	2.64				
Extreme/Average	91	57	74	75	-1	0.00	-0.84	0	2.77				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	88	63	75	74	+1	0.00	-0.88	0	2.69				
Iuka	88	57	72	72	0	0.00	-0.99	0	8.49				
Ripley	89	59	73	74	-1	0.00	-0.88	0	1.76				
Tupelo	90	64	77			0.00		0	3.25				
Verona				76		0.00	-1.00	0	2.76				0.26
Extreme/Average	90	57	74	75	-1	0.00	-0.93	0	3.79				0.26
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead				78		0.00	-0.76	0	2.51				
Rolling Fork	92	63	78	77	+1	0.00	-0.66	0	1.57	98	78	88	
Stoneville	93	63	78	77	+1	0.00	-0.73	0	1.96	94	76	86	0.90
Yazoo City	92	62	77	78	-1	0.00	-0.63	0	2.36				
Extreme/Average	93	62	78	78	0	0.00	-0.69	0	2.10	98	76	87	0.90
5. Central													
Canton	90	61	76	77	-1	0.00	-0.70	0	3.23				
Carthage	90	62	76	77	-1	0.00	-0.84	0	6.29				
Lexington	89	60	75	76	-1	0.00	-0.70	0	2.48				
Eupora				75		0.00	-0.89	0	3.64				
Extreme/Average	90	60	76	76	0	0.00	-0.81	0	3.91				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	90	66	78	76	+2	0.00	-0.84	0	2.36				0.25
Houston	89	59	74	74	0	0.00	-0.93	0	2.66				
Louisville				75		0.00	-0.85	0	2.97				
State University	90	63	76	76	0	0.00	-0.84	0	3.69	81	77	79	0.22
Extreme/Average	90	59	76	76	0	0.00	-0.84	0	2.92	81	77	79	0.24
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	90	63	78	78	0	0.00	-1.05	0	4.15	94	75	85	
Natchez	90	63	78	78	0	0.00	-0.91	0	1.44				
Oakley				77		0.00	-0.72	0	3.69	93	80	86	
Vicksburg	89	61	77			0.00		0	5.46				
Extreme/Average	90	61	77	78	-1	0.00	-0.91	0	3.69	94	75	85	
8. South-Central													
Collins	91	66	79	77	+2	0.00	-0.98	0	1.48				
Columbia				78		0.00	-1.02	0	2.96				
Tylertown	91	65	79	78	+1	0.00	-0.98	0	3.76				
Extreme/Average	91	65	79	78	+1	0.00	-0.98	0	2.73				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	95	66	80			0.00		0	3.41				
Hattiesburg	92	65	80	79	+1	0.00	-1.05	0	2.90				
Laurel	91	66	79	78	+1	0.00	-1.05	0	3.07				
Newton	90	60	75	76	-1	0.00	-0.84	0	3.89	85	72	78	0.22
Extreme/Average	95	60	79	78	+1	0.00	-0.98	0	3.32	85	72	78	0.22
10.Coastal													
Bay St Louis	94	64	80	79	+1	0.22	-1.13	1	2.80				
Gulfport	91	69	81	80	+1	0.00	-1.58	0	2.45				
Poplarville				79		0.00	-1.05	0	4.38	92	76	84	0.23
Waveland	96	69	79	79	0	0.20	-1.46	1	2.71				
Extreme/Average	96	64	80	79	+1	0.11	-1.35	1	3.09	92	76	84	0.23
State	96	57	77	77	0	0.01	-0.89	0	3.18	98	72	82	0.34

DFN = Departure from Normal.